

PUBLIC CHAPTER NO. 1044**HOUSE BILL NO. 2622****By Representatives Sherry Jones, Richardson, Maggart****Substituted for: Senate Bill No. 2911****By Senators Marrero, Ford**

AN ACT to amend Tennessee Code Annotated, Title 37, relative to services provided by the department of children's services.

BE IT ENACTED BY THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF THE STATE OF TENNESSEE:

SECTION 1. Tennessee Code Annotated, Section 37-5-102, is amended by deleting the following language:

The focus of the services shall be to preserve the relationship between the child and the family by providing, whenever possible, services in the community where the child lives and by providing the services in a setting that is the least restrictive and, yet, the most beneficial.

and by substituting instead the following language:

In all cases, the focus of the services shall be to further the best interest of the child, and when appropriate, to preserve the relationship between the child and the family. Whenever possible, such services shall be provided in the community where the child lives and in a setting that is the least restrictive and, yet, the most beneficial to the child.

SECTION 2. This act shall take effect upon becoming a law, the public welfare requiring it.

PASSED: May 13, 2008

A handwritten signature in black ink, reading "Jimmy Naifeh", written over a horizontal line.

JIMMY NAIFEH, SPEAKER
HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

A handwritten signature in black ink, reading "Ron Ramsey", written over a horizontal line.

RON RAMSEY, SPEAKER
SENATE OF THE SENATE

APPROVED this 28th day of May 2008



PHIL BREDESEN, GOVERNOR